

English Reading Course for Graduate Students

研究生英语阅读教程

夏国芳 王承康 编 著 南京大学出版社

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前言

《研究生英语阅读教程》是南京大学研究生院组织编写的非英语专业硕士研究生英语系列教材之一(其他教材有《研究生英语》、《硕士研究生英语学位课程考试题评选》和《研究生英语听力教程》)。本书不仅适合非英语专业硕士研究生作阅读教材,而且适合具有中级以上英语水平的读者使用。书中选文均出自近年出版的国外杂志书刊,内容丰富奥博,具有较强的时代气息和趣味。选材时我们一方面考虑到读者的兴趣,除科技文章之外,还收入了一些小说章节、名人回忆、影评书评、讽刺性杂文、异乡风土人情等内容;另一方面鉴于不少语言学家(Labov,1970,Widdowson,1973,Jones,1974,Sinclair et al., 1975.)一致强调学习语言应从其功能着手,我们还注意使入选文章在体裁方面尽可能满足非英语专业学生在进行学术和业务交流时特别需要的语言功能,如:描述、解释、定义、对比、概括、作结论等。

针对当前世界科技发展日新月异、社会竞争不断加剧的时代特征,本书着重选编了科技前沿和人才素质培养两方面的材料。其中有关科技前沿方面的内容有:"超导和机器人"、"基因疗法"、"太空人的工作和生活"、"全息地图"、"电视会议"、"计算机病毒"及"家庭办公室";有关人才素质培养方面的内容有:"天才的奥秘"、"事业性热忱"、"化失败为成功"、"发掘科学中的艺术内涵"等等。这些文章语言规范,通俗生动,使读者在欣赏、获得有关自然界和人类社会信息的过程中达到提高英语阅读理解能力的目的。

全书共有50篇短文,每篇平均千字左右,课文基本按由浅入深、由短及长顺序安排。每篇课文后有注释、阅读理解题和词汇练习题三部分。书末附有习题答案。

注释中的词和词组能帮助读者理解原文。为方便读者查找,它们均按字母顺序排列。各词在文中首次出现时,左上方有 * 号标志。此外,按国家教委制订的非英语专业研究生英语教学大纲中有关词汇的要求,在注释中,凡属硕士生阶段应当掌握的词或词组,在左上方标有△号,博士生阶段应当掌握的则标有□号。无记号者大多高于上述要求。

阅读理解题题型为多种选择。它们能帮助读者对全文的总体理解、掌握主题

及相关的依据或事实,并能指导读者正确理解作者某些隐含的观点、作者的态度或语气等。每篇十颗。

词汇题主要检查读者能否辨别该词在特定上下文中的意义以及一些从上下 文中可推测其义的难词。这个练习除了能帮助读者复习、记忆词汇外,还对在阅 读过程中学会猜词悟意的技巧有一定的指导意义。

根据教学大纲有关阅读的要求,学员应"···能较顺利地阅读并正确理解有相当难度的一般性题材文章和其他读物,速度达到每分钟60—70词,读后能够理解中心思想及内容。···"因此,阅读本书文章的速度以每页约九、十分钟为宜。

要提高阅读的效率,读者应具有足够的动力和浓厚的兴趣,读时要聚精会神,积极主动,乐于推测,勤于思考,紧跟作者的思路不断向自己提出"什么?""为什么?""怎么样?"之类的问题。采用这种答问的方法可以增强阅读的目的性,集中注意力,从而获得提高阅读能力的效果。

阅读速度慢的一大原因是生词。其实并非所有的生词都需要查词典。只要不影响对文章的整体理解,有的词我们不妨暂且不予理会,还有相当一部分生词可以通过上下文、语法结构、词汇搭配、词汇形态结构及常识和逻辑推理进行推测。应当逐步克服离开词典就觉得寸步难行的不良阅读习惯。

倘若本书能对读者提高英语阅读能力有所裨益,编者将感到莫大的欣慰。限于水平、能力,书中错误疏漏之处难免,如蒙各位指正,不胜感激。借此机会,我们谨向百忙之中抽空审校本书稿的侯焕镠、陈永祥先生,自始至终策划指导和大力支持的南京大学研究生院张小明、夏虹云同志致以诚挚的谢意。本教材部分内容在试用过程中,我校的研究生热情配合也功不可没。正是由于上述各位的热情支持,本书才得以和大家见面。

编 者 1994年

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1. The Anniversary

Nancie Wenick

"Good morning Jennifer," Jason Maxwell whispered as he dutifully kissed his wife lightly on the forehead.

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"Darling! How lovely; you've brought breakfast in. Where's Emily this morning?"

"I've given the servants the day off so that we could spend our anniversary alone." Jason exited to the terrace and set down the *culinary delight he had prepared for the pleasure of his bride of two years. Pleasing Jennifer had become a habit he had grown to *resent.

Jennifer eyed him lovingly, appreciating how happy she had become since her marriage to Jason. Three years ago, when Jennifer Macy's father died, the problems confronting her seemed *insurmountable. She had always been helplessly frail and dependent upon her father's care. At 12, she had never done a day's work in her life, and suddenly she had the monumental responsibility of managing the family's nationwide chain of department stores. Thanks to the bright capable young *psychiatrist who counseled her through those difficult times, the business was doing better than ever.

Many of Jennifer's friends were *skeptical when she announced her marriage to that bewitching chestnut-haired *Adonis of New York's psychiatric circles, eleven years her junior; but now they could see that Jason seemed indeed the model husband. Jennifer had never been happier and could not imagine her life without Jason.

"I've made your favorite breakfast, Jen. Blueberry "waffles with fresh blueberries and whipped cream," Jason boasted as he poured them each a glass of Dom Perignon.

"Oh, Jason," Jennifer * whined. "That's not enough champagne. Please, darling. Fill my glass." Jennifer always wanted the most and best of everything, and she had become accustomed to getting it. Jason, in turn, had become accustomed to satisfying her whims.

As he handed Jennifer her glass, Jason settled next to her on the bed and masked his contemptuous thoughts with an *adoring gaze. He had become quite adept at *feigning adoration in the two years he had been tied to the pitiful creature he called his wife. He supposed that some men might find her stately manner and sleek lines moderately attractive, but all he could see was the fading *remnant of a woman, declining with each passing year. It had become increasingly difficult for him to camouflage the *revulsion he felt whenever he saw this drab, meagerly endowed woman, completely *insubstantial and deficient when compared with the youthful beauty and vitality of Rachel, the lover with whom he sought *refuge from the charade

he called his marriage.

Jason had grown to despise Jennifer's childlike dependency and the energy he had to expend toward a relationship which meant nothing to him. The only thing which had any meaning for Jason was the Macy fortune, a fortune that was no longer worth the sacrifices it *entailed. Jason had merely been biding his time until he could arrange for Jennifer's premature *demise.

After months of careful preparation, he was finally ready to execute his plan as part of this anniversary celebration. It had not been easy to come up with the proper weapon for Jennifer's elimination from Jason's life, but after repeated experimentation in his basement laboratory, Jason had finally concoted the perfect poison: Artrepomine. This chemical mixture could easily be concealed in Jennifer's food, would cause her to have an apparently natural heart attack, and would remain undetectable in her body after death. The plan was so brilliantly conceived that Jason smiled with self-satisfaction. His extensive medical training was not in vain.

"What are you smiling about, darling?" Jennifer inquired.

"I'm just happy about the prospect of being alone with you all day," was Jason's obligatory response. "Let's go out on the terrace and have breakfast," he remarked anxiously.

As they enjoyed another glass of champagne, Jason *lavished blueberries and whipped cream on the waffles, being careful to place the waffle with the extra ingredient in front of Jennifer.

This looks *scrumptuous." Jennifer was brimming with delight at the sight and smell of her favorite breakfast. "Oh Jason. This is all so perfect. You're such a wonderful husband and I'm such a lucky woman."

This touching scene was abruptly interrupted when the phone rang. "I'll get it, Jen. You sit and enjoy your waffle."

Jason hurried to answer the telephone, annoyed that Rachel was calling so early. When he returned he found Jennifer savoring the last bite of her waffle. He poured her another glass of champagne and sat back in his chair with a sigh of relief as he ate his waffle and awaited the inevitable. As he finished his breakfast, he watched Jennifer impatiently. Jennifer looked back at him with the face of a mischievous child and said, "I have a "confession to make, Jason. You know how much I love whipped cream; and since your waffle had more whipped cream than mine, I traded. I hope you don't mind, darling."

Notes

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The Anniversary: This story is taken from Speed Reading Naturally by Lillian P. Wenich, 1990.

Adonis: any very handsome young man

□ adore: to admire

□ confession: an admission of guilt

	culinary: of cooking
	demise: (legal) death
	entail: to make necessary
	feign: to make a false show of
	insubstantial: weak or flimsy
	insurmountable: that cannot be passed over or overcome
	lavish: to give generously
	psychiatrist: an expert in the study and treatment of mental illness
	refuge: a shelter or protection from trouble, etc.
	remnant: a small part that remains
Δ	resent: to feel bitter, indignant or angry at
	revulsion: extreme disgust
	scrumptuous: delicious
	skeptical: inclined not to belive
	waffle: a crisper, batter cake baked in a waffle iron
	whine: to complain or beg in a childishly undignified way
_	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
R	eading Comprehension
1	Jason gave the servants the day off so that
1.	A. Jennifer and he could spend their anniversary alone
	B. Jennifer would be more dependent on him
	C. they could have more leisure
	D _y he could put his scheme through
3	The anniversary was their
۷.	A first B./ second C. third D. fourth
C_3	Jennifer thought that Jason was
0.	A. first B. second C. third D. fourth Jennifer thought that Jason was A. cunning R. arrogant C. obedient D. modest
4.	
•	A. handsome, young, and capable
	B. strong, young, and capable
	C. handsome and capable, though not young
	D. young and capable, though not handsome
5	. Jason married Jennifer because she was
	A. popular in high social circles B. intelligent and attractive
	C. beautiful and dependent D. rich in wealth and fortune
6	. Jason wanted to murder Jennifer because
	A. she was ungrateful B. he simply hated her
	C. he got bored with her D. he had some ulterior motive
7	. Jason planned to kill Jennifer by
	A. poison B. shooting
	∖

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_	C. strangulation	D. pu	shing her off the balcony
C 8.	Did Rachel have a hand in Jason's scher	ne?	
	Ay Absolutely yes	B. No	
	C. Perhaps	D. It's	s impossible for us to answer
4 9.	It can be inferred that		
	A. Jennifer would die	B. /Jas	son would die
	C. both of them would die	D. ne	ither of them would die
10	. The message of the story is that	<u> </u>	•
	A. to do evil is to fry in one's own gre	ease	
	B. nothing is worse than a familiar end	emy	
	C. one careless move loses whole game	;	e see
	D. believe not all you hear, and tell n	ot all you	ı know
Vo	ocabulary		,
	1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -		
1.	frail (para. 4)	₿ 6.	vitality (para. 8)
	A. innocent		A. liveliness
	B. fanciful		B. listlessness
	C. shy		C. importance
	D. weak		Dy superiority
12.	counseled (para. 4)	7.	come up with (para. 10)
	A. consoled		A. bringinto play
	B. advised		B. give free rein to
	Cy supported		C. have an idea about
	D. financed		D. take up
b 3.		8.	concocted (para. 10)
	A., appetites		A. excreted
	B. fancies		B. formulated
	C. needs		C. antidoted The
	D. dreams		D. used
F) 4.	adept (para. 8)	<i>⊳</i> 9.	undetectable (para. 10)
	A. disgusted		A. unperceivable
	B. bored		B. insubstantial
	C. awkward		C. untouched
	D. skilled		D. insolvable
<u>ც</u> 5.	camouflage (para. 8)	D 10	savoring (para. 16)
	A. expose		A. feasting
	B. conceal	1	B. devouring
	C. ignore		C. sipping
	D. confess		D. enjoying
	\checkmark		

2. Turning Failure into Success

Fredelle Maynard

Vicky—beautiful, talented, very bright, voted "Most Likely to Succeed" in college—got a promising job with a large specially store after graduation. Then, after two years without promotions, she was fired. She suffered a complete "nervous breakdown. "It was panic," she told me later. "Everything had always gone so well for me that I had no experience in coping with rejection. I felt I was a failure."

Vicky's reaction is an extreme example of a common phenomenon. In a society

Vicky's reaction is an extreme example of a common phenomenon. In a society that places so much emphasis on "* making it," we fail to recognize that what looks like failure may, in the long run, prove beneficial. When Vicky was able to think coolly about why she was fired, for example, she realized that she was simply not suited to a job dealing with people all the time. In her new position as a copy editor, she works independently, is happy and once again "successful."

People are generally prone to what *semanticist S. I. Hayakawa calls "the two-valued orientation." We talk about seeing both sides of a question as if every question had only two sides. We assume that everyone is either a success or a failure when, in fact, infinite degrees of both are possible. As Hayakawa points out, there's a world of difference between "I have failed three times" and "I am a failure. "Indeed, the words failure and success cannot be reasonably applied to a complex, living, changing human being. They can only describe the situation at a particular time and place.

Obviously no one can be a "whiz at everything. In fact, success in one area often precludes success in another. An eminent politician once told me that his career had practically destroyed his marriage. "I have no time for my family," he explained. "I travel a lot. And even when I'm home, I hardly see my wife and kids. I've got power, money, prestige but as a husband and father, I'm a flop."

Certain kinds of success can indeed be destructive. The danger of too early success is particularly acute whenever a child demonstrates special talent. I recall from my childhood a girl whose skill on ice skates marked her as "Olympic material." While the rest of us were playing, bicycling, reading, making things and just loafing, this girl skated — every day after school and all weekend. Her picture often appeared in the papers, and the rest of us envied her glamorous life. Years later, however, she spoke bitterly of those early triumphs. "I never prepared myself for anything but the ice," she said. "I peaked at 17 — and it's been downhill ever since."

Success that comes too easily is also damaging. The child who wins a prize for a dashed-off essay, the adult who distinguishes himself at a first job by lucky accident faces probable disappointment when real challenges arise.

Success is also bad when it's achieved at the cost of the total quality of an experience. Successful students sometimes become so obsessed with grades that they

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never enjoy their school years. They never branch out into tempting new areas, because they don't want to risk their grade average.

Success may, quite simply, cost too much — in strain (infighting at the job, keeping a cheerful public face while your personal life falls apart) or loss of integrity (flattering, lying, going along with questionable actions). Above all, it may be too costly if the end result is fear of not repeating the success. One of the most successful hostesses I know has come to hate entertaining: "I've acquired such a reputation," she explains, "that my friends expect me to outdo myself. I can't disappoint them — and I'm worn out before my guests arrive."

Why are so many people so afraid of failure? Quite simply because no one tells us how to fail so that failure becomes a growing experience. We forget that failure is part of the human condition and that, as family therapist Virginia Satir observes, "every person has the right to fail."

Most parents work hard at either preventing failure or protecting their children from the knowledge that they have failed. One way is to lower standards. A mother describes her child's hastily made table as "perfect!" even though it wobbles on uneven legs. Another way is to shift the blame. If John fails science, his teacher is unfair or stupid.

When one of my daughters was ten, she decided to raise money for charity by holding a "carnival. Proud of her, we rashly allowed her to put posters all over town. We realized too late that she couldn't possibly handle all the refreshments, shows and games promised in the posters. The whole family pitched in to prevent embarrassing failure — and the next year she advertised an even more ambitious event. Why not? We had kept her from discovering her limitations.

The trouble with failure-prevention devices is that they leave a child unequipped for life in the real world. The young need to learn that no one can be best at everything, no one can win all the time — and that it's possible to enjoy a game even when you don't win. A child who's not invited to a birthday party, who doesn't make the honor roll or the baseball team feels terrible, of course. But parents should not offer a quick consolation prize or say, "It doesn't matter," because it does. The youngster should be allowed to experience disappointment — and then be helped to master it.

Failure is never pleasurable. It hurts adults and children alike. But it can make a positive contribution to your life once you learn to use it. Step one is to ask, "Why did I fail?" Resist the natural impulse to blame someone else. Ask yourself what you did wrong, how you can improve. If someone else can help, don't be shy about inquiring.

When I was a teenager, I failed to get a job I'd counted on I telephoned the interviewer to ask why. "Because you came ten minutes late," I was told. "We can't afford employees who waste other people's time." The explanation was reassuring (I hadn't been rejected as a person) and helpful, too. I don't think I've been late for anything since.

Success, which encourages repetition of old behavior, is not nearly as good a

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teacher as failure. You can learn from a disastrous party how to give a good one, from an ill-chosen first house what to look for in a second. Even a failure that seems definitive can prompt fresh thinking, a change of direction. After 12 years of studying ballet a friend of mine *auditioned for a professional company. She was turned down. "Would further training help?" she asked. The ballet master shook his head. "You will never be a dancer," he said. "You haven't the body for it."

In such cases, the way to use failure is to take stock courageously, asking, "What have I left? What else can I do?" My friend put away her toe shoes and moved into dance therapy, a field where she's both competent and useful.

Oddly enough, failure ofter brings with it a peculiar kind of freedom. Even a major'life failure can be followed by a sense of "It's happened. I wish it hadn't, but it's over now — and I survived."

Failure frees one to take risks because there's less to lose. Often there's a resurgence of energy — an awareness of new possibilities.

If faced, absorbed and accepted, failure contributes to personal growth and often leads to improved personal relationships. The officially "successful" person often remains closed off and self-protective, but simple human "vulnerability is revealed in failure. A woman who recently ended what seemed like a perfect marriage says her friendships have a new closeness and warmth since her divorce. "I used to hear other people's troubles," she said, "but never tell my own. Now I can let it all out. The other day someone told me, 'I used to be put off by your superwoman act. You seem softer, more open now. I like you better this way.

Though we may envy the assurance that comes with success, most of us are attracted by gallantry in defeat — ideally exemplified by Adlai Stevenson's response after he lost the Presidential election in 1952; he said that he was "too old to cry, but it hurt too much to laugh." There is what might be called the noble failure — the special heroism of aiming high, doing you best and then, when that proves not enough, moving bravely on. As "Ralph Waldo Emerson said: "A man's success is made up of failures, because he experiments and ventures every day, and the more falls he gets, moves faster on. I have heard that in horsemanship he is not the good rider who was never thrown, but rather that a man will never be a good rider until he is thrown; then he will not be haunted any longer by the terror that he shall tumble, and will ride "whither he is bound."

Notes

Turning Failure into Success: This is an essay taken from Comprehension and Composition, published by Macmillan Publishing Company, 1986.

audition: to perform at a hearing to test the ability or suitability of a musician, actor or other performer for a part or role in a play

carnival: a festival; an organized program of events

make it: to attain success

nervous breakdown: nervous debility and exhaustion usually caused by overwork or prolonged mental strain

R. W. Emerson: (1803-1882) American essayist and poet

semanticist: a person who studies the science of the meanings, and the development of meanings of words

vulnerability: being open to attack or injury

whither: (old English) where; to which place

whiz: a very clever person, expert

Reading Comprehension

1.	An optional title for this essay may be
	A. My Experience in Life By Take a Positive View of Failure
	C. A Piece of Advice to Parents D. How to Deal with Rejection
2.	Vicky was panic-stricken when she was fired by the big store because
	A. she was out of work
	B. she did not know why
	C, she had never been turned down before
	D. she found she liked the job
3.	What does the author mean in paragraph 3?
	A. Every question has two sides and we should see both of them.
	B. There's the possibility of success or failure for anyone.
	We should not speak of failure or success in absolute or total terms.
	D. The human being is a complex, changing living thing who does not know when or
	where he will succeed or fail.
4.	The example of an eminent politician demonstrates that
	A. one's success in career does not ensure his success in other areas
	B. politicians usually have trouble with their family lives
	C. a powerful and respected person often lives at the expense of love
	D. Nobody can be perfect whatever job he may do
√5.	In regard to talented children, the author believes that they
	A. are the materials for tomorrow's champions
	B. may not be successful when they grow up
	C. have an influence upon their peers and inspire them to work hard
	D. must fully develop their special talents while they are young
6.	Success can become something negative when
-	A. people become afraid of failure
	B. it is achieved through honest actions
	C. people do not enjoy their school years
	D./it is achieved without risking
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7. Successful individuals may be bothered by their own success when A. they have to meet a lot of guests everyday B. they begin losing old friendship C. they are given tougher jobs later D. they have to outdo themselves to repeat the success 8. What kind of children of the following are best equipped for life in the real world? A. Those who always get protection from parents when they fail. B. Those who do not realize that their success comes with their parents' help. C. Those who are allowed to experience disappointment and then learn to use it. D. Those who are told that they can't enjoy a game unless they win. 9. In what sense is failure better than success? A. One will have less and lower goals to fight for. B, One will see a new direction and be lighter-hearted. C. One will have better understanding of the world. D. One will begin to hear about other people's troubles. \mathfrak{d}_{10} . The author concludes her essay with a quotation from the American poet Emerson, which means that A. a man of failure is nobler than a man of success B. to be a good rider one must be thrown off the horse C the more failures one has, the faster he will move on D. one will succeed if he is undaunted by defeat Vocabulary 6. outdo (para. 8) [1. promising (para. 1) B. cultivate A. productive A. decorate B_e satisfactory D. natural C. lavish 大手 整章 D. excel 💱 🖪 C. hopeful (37. prompt (para. 15))2. rejection (para. 1) B. incite A K . To B. reformation A. sacrifice A. denial Ce reverse C. misfortune D. likelihood 8. turn down (para: 15) 3. precludes (para. 4) B. reaffirm A. excludes B. requests A. reject D. refrain to ky (frm) C. reconcile C. optimizes D. mistakes (4. practically (para. 4) (9. resurgence (para 18) B. pulling again A attempting again A, respectively B. obviously D. uniting again C. nearly D. mildly C. rising again 12, 10. gallantry (para. 20) 5. glamorous (para. 5) A. perseverance B. bravery A. fascinating B. regular C. resourcefulness D. patience C. notable D. original

3. Large-Scale Projects in the Japan of Today

Japan is currently undertaking numerous large-scale technological development projects, some of which are introduced below. Both private industry and the research institutes of universities and the Government are involved. While many of the projects are in areas that other countries are also pursuing, some involve active cooperation between Japan and other countries through exchanges of information and researchers.

Nuclear Energy

*As of 1987 there were 35 commercial nuclear electric power reactors operating in Japan, accounting for about 16% of the country's electricity generation capacity and about 29% of the total electricity generated. The current goal, based on the two major premises of assuring safety and strengthening disaster-prevention systems for nuclear emergencies, is to achieve a complete nuclear fuel cycle within the country. For this purpose the private sector is now engaged in the construction of a large-scale reprocessing plant and uranium enrichment facility.

Japan started research on *fast breeder reactors in 1968. In 1981 the experimental reactor Joyo was constructed; test *irradiation of fuels and materials is now being carried out there. Construction of the prototype reactor Monju was started in 1985 with a target schedule of bringing the reactor to *criticality in fiscal 1992.

Research is also in progress in Japan on nuclear fusion. The main topic at present is the attainment of an energy-breakeven plasma condition required to create an experimental fusion reactor. In 1985 the JT-60 was built, a Tokamak testing device on a par with the United States' Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor and the European Community's Joint European Torus. In August 1987 the JT-60 achieved the highest energy-breakeven condition ever reached in the world at that time.

In June 1987 the Atomic Energy Commission published the Long-Term Program for Development and Utilization of Nuclear Energy. According to this plan, the installed capacity of nuclear power plants is expected to hit 53 million kilowatts, corresponding to 40% of the country's total installed electric generation capacity, in the year 2000, and to reach at least 100 million kilowatts, corresponding to 60% of the total, by 2030.

Other areas in which the development of new energy sources is being pursued include coal liquefaction and gasification, thermal power generation, and solar batteries. Research also continues on energy-saving technology.

Space Development

Japan has already launched numerous satellites for various uses, including weather forecasting, communications, broadcasting, and earth observation. So far they have

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